

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously presented): A method for determining parameters needed to communicate with a remote node in a computer network, the method comprising:

compiling a queue-pair-number map, wherein the map associates unique queue pair numbers with services hosted by network nodes;

receiving a service request from a client;

looking up the queue pair number associated to the requested service;

replying to the client, wherein the reply includes:

the address of the node hosting the requested service; and

the queue pair number associated with the requested service;

registering the network nodes with a central server, wherein the central server contains the queue-pair-number map;

receiving a second service request from the client, wherein the second request is addressed to the queue pair number included in the first reply;

associating a new queue pair number with a new dynamic instance of the requested service; and

returning a second reply to the client, wherein the second reply includes the new queue pair number.

5-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously presented): A method for determining parameters needed to communicate with a remote node in a computer network, the method comprising:

associating a service hosted by the node with a well-known queue pair number, wherein the well-known queue pair number corresponds to at least one well-known port in the node;

receiving a service request from a client, wherein the request is addressed to the well-known queue pair number; and

replying to the client, wherein the reply contains attributes necessary for communication with the requested service, wherein the reply returned to the client includes a new queue pair number which differs

from the well-known queue pair number, wherein the new queue pair number is used by the client for subsequent communication with the service.

9-11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously presented): A computer program product in a computer readable medium for use in a data processing system, for determining parameters needed to communicate with a remote node in a computer network, the computer program product comprising:

- instructions for compiling a queue-pair-number map, wherein the map associates unique queue pair numbers with services hosted by network nodes;

- instructions for receiving a service request from a client;

- Instructions for looking up the queue pair number associated to the requested service;

- instructions for replying to the client, wherein the reply includes:

 - the address of the node hosting the requested service; and

 - the queue pair number associated with the requested service;

- instructions for registering the network nodes with a central server, wherein the central server contains the queue-pair-number map;

- instructions for receiving a second service request from the client, wherein the second request is addressed to the queue pair number included in the first reply;

- instructions for associating a new queue pair number with a new dynamic instance of the requested service; and

- instructions for returning a second reply to the client, wherein the second reply includes the new queue pair number.

13-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously presented): A computer program product in a computer readable medium for use in a data processing system, for determining parameters needed to communicate with a remote node in a computer network, the computer program product comprising:

- instructions for associating a service hosted by the node with a well-known queue pair number, wherein the well-known queue pair number corresponds to at least one well-known port in the node;

- instructions for receiving a service request from a client, wherein the request is addressed to the well-known queue pair number; and

instructions for replying to the client, wherein the reply contains attributes necessary for communication with the requested service, wherein the reply returned to the client includes a new queue pair number which differs from the well-known queue pair number, wherein the new queue pair number is used by the client for subsequent communication with the service.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Previously presented): A system for determining parameters needed to communicate with a remote node in a computer network, the system comprising:

- a compiler which compiles a queue-pair-number map, wherein the map associates unique queue pair numbers with services hosted by network nodes;

- a receiver which receives a service request from a client;

- a look-up component which looks up the queue pair number mapped to the requested service;

- a response component which replies to the client, wherein the reply includes:

- the address of the node hosting the requested service; and

- the queue pair number associated with the requested service;

- a registration component which registers the network nodes with a central server, wherein the central server contains the queue-pair-number map;

- a second receiver which receives a second service request from the client, wherein the second request is addressed to the queue pair number included in the first reply;

- a processing component which associates a new queue pair number with a new dynamic instance of the requested service; and

- a second response component which sends a second reply to the client, wherein the second reply includes the new queue pair number.

19-20. (Cancelled)